

JOB'S A-PLenty, FEW SEEK THEM

New York Hotels Blame
War for Great Scarcity
of Servants

Despite the fact that since July wages of servants have been increased about 15 per cent, from the \$18 a month chambermaid to the \$400 a month cook, there is a dearth of domestic help. Places which a year ago would have been seized instantly—such, for example, as the tall bell captain at \$80 a month—board are going begging. Hotels are advertising now; houses are in despair, and farmers are running up distress signals.

This situation, most pronounced in New York, can be traced directly to the war. The servant classes are drawn from the immigrants. They are taken in the raw by New York hotels and trained. New hotels are continually springing up in the West, and they, in turn, draw their help from the Eastern hostilities. But in the last two years immigration has almost entirely, while many French, Greek and Italian servants have been drawn by the magnet of patriotism to their mother countries.

Local employment bureaus reflect what the State Bureau of Employment in Albany has called "desperate situation." The first things that greeted one on starting up the steps at the 690 Sixth Avenue leading to the Employment offices of Davis & McDermott were a mop and broom, in the care of one "Shorty," who paused with the mop in mid-air, carefully surveyed the man who had entered, and asked:

Plenty of Jobs

"Looking for a job?"
Save for "Shorty" the mop, the newcomer and a young man who lounged at a desk in a corner of the room the place was deserted.

"Sure," said the newcomer.

"Got plenty. Bartender, bartender's assistant, glass cleaner at a bar, waiter in a bar."

The young man shifted his position. "Say, boy, I'm a newspaper reporter, and—"

The mop dropped to the floor.
"Oh, cheese! I thought you was lookin' fer honest employment!" "Shorty" exclaimed, and he positively was pained. But his good disposition soon reassured him.

"See them jobs? Good ones! An' can't find nobody to take 'em. Say, lookit the book," and he showed eight pages—there must have been fifty in all—of places for women.

All of a Clip-Like?

"It come all of a clip-like, see?" he continued. "They was plenty of men, an' not so many jobs, see? An' now it's plenty of jobs, an' no men. All of a clip-like. Cheese de boss send me out in de parks, see? I an' I cop 'em off de benches. But, cheese, even de benches is despoiled."

"It ain't no regular job. No. Toast-roastin' is one trade. Maskin' toast fer de swell in a hotel, see? I was up to Lake Champlain dis summer, see, toasting. You'd ought see de way dem guys eats toast. Fourteen hours a day I toasts over a hot stove. De meals was Aller Carter, see? 'Sard wok, Aller Carter.

"Say, c'mon in when de boss is in. Nine-tofty of a mornin'. De office ain't crowded no more. De boss he cop 'em off de benches, too, to keep his hand in wit' de trade, see. Cheese, it come all of a clip-like."

The suddenness of the situation which impressed itself so indelibly upon the intelligence of "Shorty" would have spelled doom for hotels had it not been foreseen. Most of them have fore stalled the disaster of being short-handed. Yet the Ritz-Carlton has applied to the Davis Agency for a pot-washer at \$45 a month and board, whereas a few months ago such an employee received \$25 or \$30 and his meals.

Hard-Pressed for Help

Augustus Nulle, chief of service of the Waldorf-Astoria, admits that he has been hard-pressed for help. The Waldorf sports about thirty \$1,000,000 in salaries. The disturbance ranges from the \$30,000 one man receives to the \$16 a month, exclusive of tips, a chambermaid is paid. The salaries of virtually all employees which this budget embraces have been raised by 30 per cent since last June.

The Hotel McAlpin, however, has experienced little difficulty. Bellboys are paid \$30 a month while the average is \$18. Footmen are paid \$40 and waiters against an average of \$55; dormen receive \$40 against a usual \$30. In all cases the wages are exclusive of tips.

"Smaller salaries we believe to be poor economy," said John J. Geerin, superintendent of uniformed service of the McAlpin. "We pay our employees well, offer bonuses for efficiency and promote men when they deserve it. Some of the floor clerks started out as bellboys. Hotel help, particularly hard to get now, may because we have taken into consideration the human element we are not hampered by the scarcity of servants."

Salaries have been recently raised at this hotel, however, as well as others. From the domestic point of view times are good. Even the salad girl, who specializes in the mixing of salt, pepper, vinegar and oil and in the slicing of lettuce, has risen from \$15 a month to the dignity of \$18.

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Male.

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and

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COPPLE—French butler, valid, used; wife excellent cook; good manager; best references; city or country. Miss Shaughnessy's Agency, 17 W. 42d.

COPPLE—Bookbinder, Protestant; wife excellent cook and manager; best references; city or country. Miss Shaughnessy's Agency, 17 W. 42d.

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Shipping Information and Marine News of the World

MINIATURE ALMANAC.

(United States Coast and Geodetic Survey)

Sun rises 6:55 a.m. Sun sets 5:19 p.m.

Moons rises 7:24 a.m.

HIGH WATER.

Sandy Hook 9:23 a.m. Governor's Island 9:59 a.m.

Bell Gate 12 a.m.

INCOMING STEAMERS.

TO DAY.

From Sailed

London—Naples Oct 2

Manhattan—London Oct 2

Quebec—London Oct 2

Quebec—Kirkwall Oct 2

Quebec—Montreal Oct 2

Quebec—Gatineau Oct 2

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15.

From Sailed

London—Liverpool Oct 6

Vancouver—London Oct 6

Brazeau—San Juan Oct 6

Toronto—London Oct 6

Toronto—Gatineau Oct 6

Quebec—Montreal Oct 6

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